



**Great Lakes Works** Environmental Dept. No. 1 Quality Drive Ecorse, Michigan 48229

April 25, 2017

EES Case Management Unit Environmental and Natural Resources Div. U. S. Department of Justice Box 7611 Washington, DC 20044-7611

Compliance Tracker (AE-17J) Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

Wilhemina McLemore Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Division Cadillac Place, Suite 2-300 3058 W. Grand Blvd - Suite 2-300 Detroit, Michigan 48202-6058

Sir/Madam:

Re:

United States, et al. v United States Steel Corporation Consent Decree 2:12-cv-304, DJ# 90-5-2-1-06476/1 United States Steel Corporation – Great Lakes Works

B2 Blast Furnace Large Bell Repair and Inspection report

Pursuant to Paragraph V.A.12.b. of the above-referenced Consent Decree, U. S. Steel is submitting the B2 Blast Furnace Large Bell Repair and Inspection Report.

On October 24, 2016, the Great Lakes Works' B2 Blast Furnace was taken down for an extended outage to install a bell seal ring on the large bell. Installing the new bell seal ring on the large bell required a significant amount of work including:

The lockout of the furnace top and associated equipment

- Securing the large bell and ensuring the bell was in the proper position when secured, not pulled off center or skewed

- Removal of the gas seal door

- Installation of safety turnbuckles to secure the large bell to the hopper

Removal of the hard surfacing in twelve locations on the large bell in preparation of welding

- Rigging the four seal ring sections to prepare to place into position

- Removal of the safety turnbuckles

Opening of the large bell and lowering the seal ring segments into position with the

Eric Cohen Office or Regional Counsel, C-14J

US EPA, Region V 77 West Jackson Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60604

Neil D. Gordon

Michigan Dept. of Attorney General

Environment, Natural Resources, and

Agriculture Division P. O. Box 30755

Lansing, MI 48909

Case Number 2:12-cv-304, DJ# 90-5-2-1-06476/1 April 25, 2017 Page 2

interlocking connections joined together

- Closing of the large bell once the ring was in position
- Securing of the large bell once again and ensuring the bell was in the proper position when secured, not pulled off center or skewed
- Installation of safety turnbuckles
- Tack welding the bell seal ring segments together
- Welding the twelve clips to the large bell
- Finishing welding the seal ring segments together
- Seal welding the top of the seal ring to the large bell
- Removal of the four seal ring hanger assemblies
- Removal of the safety turnbuckles
- Unlocking and cycling of the large bell

During the extended outage, USS personnel were inspecting the repair work being completed. Once the repair was complete, the Blast Furnace Maintenance Area Manager did a final inspection of the large bell seal ring confirming the work was complete and effective. During the inspection, the Blast Furnace Maintenance Area Manager confirmed the large bell was free of visible holes, gouges, cracks, excessive wear and was seating properly with the installation of the seal ring.

The B2 Blast Furnace returned to production on November 1, 2016 after the large bell seal ring installation. To evaluate the effectiveness of the repair once in production USS conducted certified visible emission observations of the B2 Blast Furnace top. These readings were conducted by third party observers and occurred across four days during the week beginning November 27, 2016. The visible emission observation sheets are attached.

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attached were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations. This certification requirement does not apply to emergency or similar notification where compliance would be impractical.

Alexis Piscitelli

Great Lakes Works

Director, Environmental Control

United States Steel Corporation

Sincerely,

Ron Kostvo

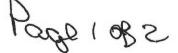
General Manager, Great Lakes Works

Great Lakes Works

United States Steel Corporation

cc: David Hacker (USS)

Attachments



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Page 2 of 2